

Message Text

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E. O. 11652: ADS- DECLAS 5/31/74

TAGS: OEXC, SF

SUBJ: IV GRANTEE REV. MAQINA

REF: PRETORIA 8064

1. CU/ AF PROGRAM OFFICER HAS HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH BARBARA FORD, THE YOUNG, BLACK ESCORT FOR REV. MAQINA. HER DETAILED WRITTEN REPORT WILL BE SENT TO POST ASAP.

2. ESCORT, WHO APPEARS TO BE VERY PLEASANT, EMPATHETIC TYPE, FOUND MAQINA RETICENT AND EVASIVE ABOUT DISCUSSING PROGRAM WITH HER. IT WAS MAQINA'S DISCUSSIONS WITH BLACK CHURCH LEADERS AT THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER IN ALTANTA WHICH APPARENTLY RAISED QUESTIONS IN HIS MIND ABOUT HER ROLE AND ALSO PARTICULARLY THESE DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH HE WAS CHALLENGED ABOUT EXIT PERMIT, ACCEPTING USG GRANT AND HIS WORK IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE COMPLAINED TO MISS FORD THAT HE WAS NOT HERE TO DISCUSS POLITICS, BUT WOULD NOT REALLY ELABORATE TO HER FROM THAT POINT ON RE. HIS IMPRESSIONS OR REACTIONS TO PROGRAM.

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3. HIS SUSPICIONS OR " PARANOIA" RE. TRAGEDY IN PORT ELIZABETH MUST BE SEEN IN CONTEXT FOLLOWING BACKGROUND. ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS DURING TRIP; MAQINA CALLED WIFE IN PORT ELIZABETH. SHE TOLD HIM S. A. POLICE HAD INTERCEPTED IN MAILS A BOOK FROM A WHITE FRIEND IN EUROPE ENTITLED " WHY WE CANNOT WAIT" AND THAT POLICE HAD SEVERAL TIMES ENTERED AND SEARCHED THE HOUSE, DURING HIS ABSENCE, AND HAD CONFISCATED A LETTER (REPORTEDLY INNOCUOUS) HE HAD WRITTEN FROM U. S. FORD DID NOT LEARN OF THESE PHONE CALLS UNTIL WORD REACHED THEM IN SAN FRANCISCO AND DENVER RE ACCIDENT. AT THAT POINT, MAQINA MADE REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE FOUL PLAY. FORD REPORTS THAT WHEN HE LEFT NY FOR LONDON, HE OBVIOUSLY HAD FEARS OF BEING DETAINED IN PORT ELIZABETH AND " REALLY LOOKED WHIPPED."

4. DESPITE NEGATIVE ASPECTS ABOVE AND RELATIVE LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VISITOR AND ESCORT, FORD GAINED IMPRESSION THAT, ON BALANCE, MAQINA' S REACTION TO PROGRAM WAS FAVORABLE. HIS PRIME INTEREST SEEMED TO BE IN MAKING CONTACT WITH CHURCH ACTIVISTS WHO COULD PROVIDE CONCRETE ASSISTANCE FOR HIS WORK IN PORT ELIZABETH. HE WAS CERTAINLY INTRODUCED TO MANY SUCH PEOPLE, SOME OF WHOM MAY HAVE STRUCK HIM AS RADICAL OR OUTSPOKEN, BUT HIGHPOINT OF TOUR APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH REV. SULLIVAN IN PHILADELPHIA, WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER, A VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM. SULLIVAN IS COMING TO SOUTH AFRICA NEXT YEAR AND EXPRESSED INTEREST TO MAQINA IN HELPING HIM TO SET UP SIMILAR OPERATION IN PORT ELIZABETH. MAQINA WAS DEFINITELY DISAPPOINTED THAT THE TRIP WAS CUT SHORT, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE HE HAD HOPED TO MAKE SIMILAR CONTACTS IN NEW YORK.

5. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW WILL FOLLOW AFTER RECEIPT OF ESCORT REPORT AND DISCUSSION WITH PROGRAMMING AGENCY. RUSH

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